

Identification of self and non-self antigens implicated in autoimmune diseases

Abstract

The present invention provides isolated peptides relating to the autoimmune disease pemphigus vulgaris. The peptides relating to pemphigus vulgaris are self epitopes derived from human pathogens which are implicated in the aetiology and remissions of the disease. Pharmaceutical preparations for tolerizing and/or immunizing individuals are provided as well as methods relating thereto. Methods are provided for identifying other self and non-self epitopes involved in human autoimmune disease and similar pharmaceutical preparations and methods of use for these epitopes are also provided.